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and surplusage which infects so many of our school text-books. In typography and in the matter of intelligent and neatly executed diagrams the book leaves little to be desired. μ.

Die Analyse der Empfindungen und das Verhältniss des Physischen zum Psychischen. By *Dr. E. Mach*, Professor in the University of Vienna. Vienna: Verlag von Gustav Fischer. 1900. Pages, vii, 244.

The first edition of this small but valuable work, which in our judgment contained as many original ideas, investigations, and suggestions for further research as any book of its size in psychological literature, appeared fourteen years ago. Its function, as modestly indicated by its author, who is by profession a physicist, was solely that of an *aperçu;* but to judge from the influence which it has exerted it may be considered to have fulfilled a far loftier mission. The author is aware of the great strides which experimental psychology has taken since the original appearance of the work, but he has wisely avoided the temptation of incorporating the results of that research into the second edition of his book, and has rightly preferred to let it stand in nearly its original form, with the addition of a few supplementary chapters designed to explain his position with reference to the controversies which have since then arisen concerning the main problems of psychology and methodology. One of these chapters appeared in 1897 as an appendix to the English translation of his book; the second discusses his intellectual relationship to Avenarius, which has recently been a subject of frequent comment on the part of Avenarius's pupils; the third is concerned with the relations of physics and biology (causality and teleology); the fourth is on the will, and the fifth on sensation, memory, and association. We believe that these new discussions, in so far as they touch upon moot points and are not apologetic, will be stimulative to psychological thought in no less a degree than their predecessors, and that the value of the little book has been increased by them. μ.

Ebene und sphärische Trigonometrie. By *Dr. F. Bohnert*, Hamburg. Leipsic: G. J. Göschen'sche Verlagshandlung. 1900. Pages, viii, 160. Price, bound, 2 marks.

Ebene Geometrie der Lage. By *Dr. Rudolf Böger*, Professor in the Johanneum, Hamburg. Leipsic: G. J. Göschen'sche Verlagshandlung. 1900. Pages, x, 289. Price, bound, 5 marks.

We noticed in the last number of *The Monist* the first volumes of the new mathematical series conducted under the editorship of Professor Schubert, of Hamburg, and we have now to call attention to two new issues, namely, Dr. Bohnert's *Plane and Spherical Trigonometry* and Dr. Rudolf Böger's *Plane Geometry of Position*. Dr. Bohnert's work is a concise and clear exposition of the elements of plane and spherical trigonometry, made on the traditional pattern, but avoiding not a little of the conventional rubbish and strongly emphasising methodological and logical points of view. The development of spherical trigonometry is carried out along lines parallel with the development of the principles of plane trigonometry, special effort having been made in this direction to attain the economical advantages afforded by a systematic and orderly whole. The neatness of the figures and the clearness and contrasts of the typographical arrangements will add not a little to the usefulness of the book; while the frequent applications of trigonometry to geometry and the occasional use in the proofs of the geometry of circles of a triangle will afford acceptable hints to teachers who desire to vary and improve their methods of instruction. The examples are not numerous, but they are well chosen and admirably exhibit the wide range of applicability of trigonometry. Special attention has also been paid to the relative value of the different methods of trigonometrical computation,—a point generally neglected in text-books.

Dr. Böger's *Geometry of Position* is a compact and solid treatise based in the main on the systems of Von Staudt and Reye, but supplemented by the conceptions of Thomae and the independent investigations of the author himself, who has substituted for Von Staudt's theory of imaginary elements a theory of his own, rendering a distinction between real and imaginary cases unnecessary. It is a good introduction to the geometry of position, rigorous and complete. μ.

ELEMENTE DER EMPIRISCHEN TELEOLOGIE. By *Paul Nicolaus Cossmann*. Stuttgart: A. Zimmer's Verlag (Ernst Mohrmann). 1899. Pages, 132. Price, 4 Marks.

This book gives a good survey of certain problems now engaging the attention of epistemologists and students of scientific method. The subject-matter of the empirical sciences is defined by the author to be the *necessary connexions* subsisting between things. These necessary connexions are called natural laws. The subsumption of any group of events under a law is called the explanation of that group of events, and so with the subsumption of a special law under a more general law. The author proceeds analytically; he finds the empirical sciences to be preponderantly causal sciences (ætiology), and identifies the theory of science with the theory of causality. The universality of causality is for him the foundation of all scientific research. He then gives a general formulation of the law of causality according to which every phenomenon is conceived to have a functional connexion with some part of its antecedents, which part is called the cause. The law takes thus a mathematical form, and causes and effects are conceived as values of abstract magnitudes, which magnitudes are constant in the case of individual isolated causal laws, but are in turn themselves values of two variable quantities—general cause and general effect—as soon as the totality of the causal law is considered. This is a little in the air, and many minor points that the author makes may seem similarly far-fetched. The bulk of the work is devoted to an analysis of biological experience with a view to ascertaining whether biological phenomena are involved without residuum in the causal complexus. Teleology, in the author's